



**U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Western District of Texas**

**Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FORMER IHOP MANAGER CONVICTED OF MAIL FRAUD, EMBEZZLEMENT**

**United States Attorney Johnny Sutton** announced that a federal jury in Midland this afternoon convicted Orchid Mitchell Hill, 47, of 11 counts of mail fraud arising out of her embezzlement of more than \$115,000 from the International House of Pancakes ("IHOP") restaurant from August 2007 to January 2008.

Testimony at trial established that Hill, the general manager of the IHOP restaurant on Loop 250 in Midland, stole 22 of the restaurant's daily cash deposits over a five-month period. She facilitated her fraud by transmitting weekly reports to the restaurant's accountants in Wichita Falls falsely certifying that all the daily cash deposits, for which she was responsible by virtue of her position, had been made.

Hill faces up to 20 years in prison and up to a \$250,000 fine on each count when she is sentenced in February 2009. Under federal law, full restitution to IHOP will also be a mandatory part of her sentence.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States John Klassen prosecuted the case on behalf of the government.

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